

July 4, 2006

To Whom It May Concern:

It is my pleasure to write to enthusiastically support Jyotsna Kapur's nomination of Chuck Kleinhans for the Society for Cinema and Media Studies Teaching Award.

I have known Chuck Kleinhans since 1998 when I was a doctoral student in the Department of Performance Studies at Northwestern University. Chuck is one of the most distinguished teachers in the Department of Radio/TV/Film. I took his classes on *Mass Culture* and *History of Film Theory* between 1998-2000. Chuck is a superb teacher and can understand the needs of his students exceedingly well. As a result, he has often created a diverse range of new and engaging courses. He is very well-respected among students because of his breadth of knowledge and the varied classes he offer that include documentary films, experimental films and videos, mass culture, film theory, U.S. culture and the Third World, Hollywood cinema, international cinema such as Hong Kong cinema.

Chuck was on my dissertation committee at Northwestern University between 2000-2005. I am extremely grateful for his insight, guidance and inspiration that helped to shape my project on the transnationalization of Asian martial arts cinema and performance. He has not only been a dissertation committee member who gave extremely insightful advice, but also a friend. His generosity of spirit and his unwavering support for my project have helped me sustain my vision.

As an editor of *Jump Cut*, Chuck is an invaluable source of advice and guidance for young scholars like me in publishing academic writings. His constant advice and encouragement have driven me to expand my own horizon and abilities. I am extremely thankful for his critical insights that helped to shape my development as a researcher. Chuck has my unqualified praise: his passion for cinema and media studies, for popular culture and visual studies, and for teaching coupled with him as a prolific scholar make him highly competitive for this teaching award.

Very Sincerely Yours,

Kin-Yan Szeto, Ph.D.  
Assistant Professor  
Department of Theatre and Dance  
Appalachian State University  
Boone, NC 28608